**Lesson 1: JUDE: Contending for The Faith in Today’s Culture**

**Text: Jude 1-2: Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and brother of James, to those who are called, beloved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ: May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.**

1. **What have you learned about Jude?**
* **Jude is the half brother of Jesus and brother of James.**
* **Raised in the same home of Mary Joseph but did not believe in him early on.**
* **After the resurrection Jude and James came into the realization that Jesus was who He claimed to be, the Messiah.**
* **Jude credits Jesus for saving his people from Egypt (Jude 5) although at the time of the exodus Jesus has not yet been revealed.**
* **Jude teaches that the familiarity with Jesus is not sufficient to save us.**
1. **What does it mean to be Called, Beloved in God the Father, and Kept for Jesus Christ?**
* **Called means those whom God has called have been summoned into fellowship with Jesus Christ.**
* **God’s call is not merely an invitation to know Him, but it is a call that inevitably leads to faith in Him.**
* **This calling deals with our past, present, and future.**
* **Beloved in the Father speaks of the love God has for humanity, flaws and all.**
* **To be Kept for Jesus. Noticed Jude said to be Kept for Jesus Christ.** . Grace is simply defined as “unmerited favor.” God favors us—He shows us approval and kindness—in blessing us with good things that we do not deserve and could never earn. [Common grace](https://www.gotquestions.org/common-grace.html) refers to the blessings that God bestows on all of mankind regardless of their spiritual standing before Him, while [saving grace](https://www.gotquestions.org/saving-grace.html) is that special blessing whereby God sovereignly bestows unmerited divine assistance upon His elect for their regeneration and sanctification.
1. **Why does Jude pray for Mercy rather than Grace? What is the difference?**
* Mercy has to do with kindness and compassion; it is often spoken of in the context of God’s not punishing us as our sins deserve.
* . Grace is simply defined as “unmerited favor.” God favors us—He shows us approval and kindness—in blessing us with good things that we do not deserve and could never earn. [Common grace](https://www.gotquestions.org/common-grace.html) refers to the blessings that God bestows on all of mankind regardless of their spiritual standing before Him, while [saving grace](https://www.gotquestions.org/saving-grace.html) is that special blessing whereby God sovereignly bestows unmerited divine assistance upon His elect for their regeneration and sanctification.
1. **In Jude’s greeting, who did he say he was a slave to? Write down two Scriptures that would help someone get to know Him.**
* **Jude was not a slave to men, but God- meaning Jude listened to, followed, obeyed, and honored God.**
* **Judges 2:8: J**oshua son of Nun, the servant of the Lord, died at the age of a hundred and ten. **9**And they buried him in the land of his inheritance, at Timnath Heres[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Judges%202%3A8-10&version=NIV#fen-NIV-6555a)] in the hill country of Ephraim, north of Mount Gaash.
* **2 Peter 1.1** Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ,
1. **Jude asked for God’s mercy, peace, and love to be multiplied to them or in other words, for them to abound in increasing measure toward the recipients of the letter. What would it have looked like for Jude’s recipients to abound in mercy, peace, and love?**
* They would recognize that each day of life because of our sinful nature is an act f God’s mercy. Each day God pardons our wrong and the penalty deserving of our actions.
* Peace from God would reflect a confident and still ability to navigate through any of life’s circumstances.
* Peace with God reflects that we are no longer hostile towards God and no longer enemies of God, rather we are children of God, heir and joint-heir with Jesus Christ.